

KCC 4843 (K-C 15,400)
PATENTAmendments to the Claims

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein said article is an incontinence product.

3. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein said article is a diaper.

4. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein the at least one fastener comprises one of a generally rectangular shape, square shape, circular shape, triangular shape, oval shape, linear shape and a combination thereof.

5. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein the at least one fastener is generally rectangular in shape.

6. (Canceled)

7. (previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein the active fastening material comprises a plurality of hooks.

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8. (previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 7, wherein the plurality of hooks are configured in rows of about 4 rows of hooks/cm² to about 30 rows of hooks/cm² independently in at least one of the machine direction and the cross machine direction.

9. (previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 7, wherein the plurality of hooks have a density of about 100 hooks/cm² to about 750 hooks/cm² independently in at least one of the machine direction and the cross machine direction.

10. (Canceled)

11. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, wherein the at least one fastener comprises an anchor end configured to have a first shear strength and a user end configured to have a second shear strength, the ends differing such that first shear strength is greater than the second shear strength.

12. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 11, wherein at least one of the portion of active fastening material at the anchor end and the portion of the active fastening material at the user end of the at least one fastener comprises at least one of a generally rectangular shape, square shape, circular shape, triangular shape, oval shape and a linear shape have different surface areas corresponding to said first and second shear strengths.

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13. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim [[11]] 12, wherein [[the]] said first shear strength at the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of is greater than 3,000 grams tensile.

14. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim [[11]] 12, wherein the surface area of active fastening material of the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a length of about 0.75 to about 1.25 inches and a width of about 1.5 to about 4.0 inches size about 3 times larger than the surface area of active fastening material of the user end.

15. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim [[11]] 12, wherein [[the]] said second shear strength at the user end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of is greater than 2,000 grams tensile.

16. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim [[11]] 12, wherein the anchor end has a length of about 0.75 to about 1.25 inches and a width of about 1.5 to about 4.0 inches, and wherein the user end of the at least one fastener has a width of about 0.75 to about 2.0 inches.

17. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 11, further comprising an outer cover having an outside surface, and wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener is affixed to the at least one outside surface of the outer cover by at least one of thermal point bonding, ultrasonic bonding and adhesive bonding.

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18. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 17, wherein the adhesive bonding may be applied by a pattern of at least one of an adhesive bead, line, swirl and dot independently in at least one of the machine direction and the cross machine direction.

19. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 18, wherein the at least one adhesive bead is less than about 0.25 inches in width.

20. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, ~~wherein the outer cover provides~~ further comprising an outer cover, and wherein said landing material comprises an active landing material located on the outer cover.

21. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 52, further comprising an outer cover, and wherein the outer cover comprises at least one attachment panel.

22. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 21, wherein the at least one attachment panel comprises loop material.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55, wherein the pair of ears comprise an elastomeric material.

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25. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 24, wherein the elastomeric material is a neck bonded laminate (NBL).

26. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55, wherein the at least one fastener comprises an anchor end and a user end.

27. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 26, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener is reinforced with glue.

28. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 26, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of greater than 3,000 grams tensile.

29. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 26, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a length of about 0.75 to about 1.25 inches and a width of about 1.5 to about 4.0 inches.

30. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 26, wherein the user end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of greater than 2,000 grams tensile.

31. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 26, wherein the user end of the at least one fastener has a width of about 0.75 to about 2.0 inches.

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32. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55, wherein said article is an incontinence product.

33. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55, wherein said article is a diaper.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55, wherein the active fastening material comprises a plurality of hooks.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 63, wherein said article is an incontinence product.

38. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 63, wherein said article is a diaper.

39. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 63, wherein the active fastening surface of the at least one single piece of flexible material is substantially covered by active fastening material.

40. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 39, wherein the active fastening material comprises a plurality of hooks.

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41. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 63, wherein the outer cover comprises a pair of ears.

42. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 41, wherein the pair of ears comprise an elastomeric material.

43. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 42, wherein the elastomeric material is a neck bonded laminate (NBL).

44. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 63, wherein the at least one fastener comprises an anchor end and a user end.

45. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 44, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener is affixed to the at least one outside surface of the outer cover by at least one of thermal point bonding, ultrasonic bonding and adhesive bonding.

46. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 45, wherein the adhesive bonding may be applied as at least one of an adhesive bead, line, swirl and dot independently in at least one of the machine direction and the cross machine direction.

47. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 46, wherein the at least one adhesive bead is less than about 0.25 inches in width.

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48. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 44, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of greater than 3,000 grams tensile.

49. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim [41] 44, wherein the anchor end of the at least one fastener has a length of about 0.75 to about 1.25 inches and a width of about 1.5 to about 4.0 inches.

50. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 44, wherein the user end of the at least one fastener has a shear strength of greater than 2,000 grams tensile.

51. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 44, wherein the user end of the at least one fastener has a width of about 0.75 to about 2.0 inches.

52. (Currently amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising:

a first waist region;

a second waist region;

a crotch region extending longitudinally between the first and second waist regions, the absorbent article being foldable generally within the crotch region to configure said article with the first waist region in generally opposed relationship with the second waist region; and

at least one fastener comprising a single piece of flexible material having an active fastening surface extending continuously thereon, at least a portion of the active fastening surface being located on the fastener for anchoring to said article on landing material located generally at said first

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waist region and at least one other portion of the active fastening material being located on the fastener for fastening to said article on landing material located generally at said second waist region to secure said article on a wearer, the active fastening surface being substantially covered substantially in entirety by an active fastening material different than said landing material, the active fastening material comprising one of a plurality of hooks and a plurality of loops, the landing material comprising the other of a plurality of hooks and a plurality of loops.

53. (previously presented) A disposable absorbent article as set forth in claim 52 wherein said article has an inner surface adapted for contiguous relationship with the body of the wearer and an outer surface, the at least one fastener being adapted for anchoring to the outer surface of said article generally at said first waist region and for fastening to said outer surface at said second waist region to secure said article on the wearer.

54. (Previously presented) A disposable absorbent article as set forth in claim 52 further comprising a liner defining the inner surface of said article, an outer cover in opposed relationship with the liner and defining the outer surface of said article, and an absorbent core between the liner and the outer cover.

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55. (currently amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising:

a first waist region;

a second waist region;

a crotch region extending longitudinally between the first and second waist regions, the absorbent article being foldable generally within the crotch region to configure said article with the first waist region in generally opposed relationship with second waist region;

an outer cover; and

~~a pair of ears generally at the first waist region, and~~

at least one fastener comprising a single piece of flexible material having an anchor end, a user end opposite the anchor end, and an active fastening surface extending continuously thereon, at least a portion of the active fastening surface being located generally at the anchor end on the fastener for anchoring to said article generally at said first waist region and at least one other portion of the active fastening material being located generally at the user end on the fastener for fastening to said article generally at said second waist region to secure said article on a wearer, the active fastening surface being substantially covered by an active fastening material, the portion at the anchor end configured to have a first shear strength and the portion at the user end configured to have a second shear strength, the first shear strength being greater than the second shear strength.

56. (currently amended) The disposable absorbent article of claim 55 further comprising a pair of ears generally at the first waist region, and wherein the ears are formed integrally with the outer cover at the first waist region of said article.

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57. (Canceled)

58. (Canceled)

59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61. (Previously presented) The disposable absorbent article as set forth in claim 63 wherein said active fastening material of said at least one fastener comprises a plurality of hooks, said hooks being fastenably engageable with the article at said first waist region.

62. (currently amended) A disposable absorbent article having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, said article comprising:

a first waist region;

a second waist region;

a crotch region extending longitudinally between the first and second waist regions, the absorbent article being foldable generally within the crotch region to configure said article with the first waist region in generally opposed relationship with the second waist region; and

at least one fastener comprising a single piece of flexible material having an active fastening surface extending continuously thereon, at least a portion of the active fastening surface being located on the fastener for fastening to said article on landing material located generally at said first waist region and at least one other portion of the active

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fastening material being located on the fastener for fastening to said article on landing material located generally at said second waist region to secure said article on a wearer, the active fastening surface comprising an active fastening material different than said landing material, the active fastening material comprising one of a plurality of hooks and a plurality of loops, the landing material comprising the other of a plurality of hooks and a plurality of loops, said fastening material being releasably engageable with the landing material of the article.

63. (currently amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising:

a first waist region;
a second waist region;
a crotch region extending longitudinally between the first and second waist regions, the absorbent article being foldable generally within the crotch region to configure said article with the first waist region in generally opposed relationship with second waist region; [[and]]

at least one fastener comprising a single piece of flexible material comprising an active fastening material[[],]; and an adhesive on one of the fastener, first region, and second waist region;

wherein a first portion of the active fastening material being is located on the fastener for fastening engagement with said article generally at said first waist region and a second portion of the active fastening material being is located on the fastener for fastening engagement with said article generally at said second waist region to secure said article on a wearer, said fastener being affixed to said article generally at said first portion of the active fastening material other than by

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both said active fastening material and by the adhesive which
augments said active fastening material.

64. (Previously presented) A disposable absorbent article as set forth in claim 63 wherein the fastener is bonded to said article generally at said first waist region.

65. (canceled)